

## **Letter to the Editor – Daily Press**

**November 2, 2016**

### **Supports both Bacas**

Soon after I was appointed as a Trustee to Victor Valley Community College in 2011, I began to realize the benefit that could be brought to our region if the Trustees of our two High Desert community colleges, Victor Valley and Barstow Community College, were to meet and work together. It seemed like a rather simple task to get two Boards of Trustees to discuss items of mutual importance. I found it hard to believe that a meeting of this type had never been attempted, considering our common goal of providing higher education to our residents.

With this in mind, one of my primary goals when I became president of the Board of Trustees at Victor Valley Community College was to hold joint workshops with Barstow Community College District. When I broached the idea for a joint meeting between our boards with Barstow Community College District incumbents and lifelong Barstow residents, Mr. Ted Baca and Mr. Fred Baca, they were immediately receptive and I came away feeling certain that our collective Board of Trustees would make these meetings happen.

With the direct commitment of Mr. Ted Baca and Mr. Fred Baca, as well as the three other Barstow Community College Trustees, our first meeting was held in Apple Valley at the Victor Valley Community College Public Safety Center on July 9, 2015 and attended by all five members of the Barstow College Board of Trustees. A subsequent meeting was held in Barstow in the Performing Arts Center on Nov. 17, 2015. The dialogue that resulted from these meetings has been extremely helpful in breaking down barriers that existed in the past between our institutions. I can assure you that, as a regional businessman with financial interests in the Barstow area, there are no two more deserving, committed College Trustees than Mr. Ted Baca and Mr. Fred Baca. I would strongly recommend a vote for both of them on Nov. 8.

**Joseph W. Brady**, CCIM, SIOR President,

The Bradco Companies, Alliance Management Group, Barstow Real Estate Group